

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05752 081515Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-01 HA-05 AID-05 CCO-00 FBOE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSC-05 SP-02 OC-06 OPR-02
PA-01 USSS-00 CA-01 A-01 SCS-06 OMB-01 SS-15
SY-05 ICA-11 /097 W
-----042928 081525Z /53

R 081501Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8335
INFO AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, NI
SUBJECT: A FOOTNOTE ON THE EVENTS OF APRIL 28

REF: LAGOS 5400

1. IN CONVERSATIONS SUBSEQUENT TO OUR REPORT, REFTEL, WE HAVE HEARD THAT NUMEROUS MEMBERS OF THE DIPLOMATIC AND EXPATRIATE BUSINESS COMMUNITITES WERE CAUGHT UP IN THE RIOTS WHICH OCCURRED ON THE LAGOS MAINLAND ON FRIDAY, APRIL 28. MOST OF THE INCIDENTS TOOK PLACE ON TRIPS BACK AND FORTH TO THE AIRPORT. AS REPORTED REFTEL, TWO EMBASSY VEHICLES WERE DAMAGED. THAT EVENING ON THE MAINLAND. TWO WACASC VEHICLES WERE ALSO DAMAGED.

2. AMONG THE MOST SERIOUS INCIDENTS, THE SWEDISH AMBASSADOR'S CAR WAS ATTACKED BY A MOB WHILE HE WAS RETURNING FROM THE AIRPORT WITH HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN WHO HAD JUST ARRIVED IN LAGOS. THE
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AMBASSADOR'S VEHICLE WAS EXTENSIVELY DAMAGED AND THE WINDSHIELD WAS SMASHED. IN ADDITION, WE HAVE HEARD THAT BULGARIAN AND SOVIET EMBASSY VEHICLES WERE ATTACKED AND SUFFERED SERIOUS DAMAGE IN SEPARATE ALTERCATIONS. THE CAR OF THE ANGOLAN AMBASSADOR WAS COMPLETELY BURNED OUT BY RIOTERS. SEVERAL OF THE RIOT RINGLEADERS REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THEY

THOUGHT THE FNCD LICENSED CARS BELONGED TO
THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. AS REPORTED REFTEL,
FGN AND CVU VEHICLES WHICH ARE FMG OWNED WERE
PARTICULAR TARGETS OF THE MOBS.

3. SIMILARLY, BUSINESSMEN, BOTH NIGERIAN
AND EXPATRIATE, WHO WERE ON THE AIRPORT ROAD
WERE ATTACKED ESPECIALLY IF THEY WERE RIDING IN "LUXURY"
CARS. SEVERAL AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN TOLD US THAT
THEY SURVIVED BY DOLING OUT GENEROUS AMOUNTS OF
NAIRA ALONG WITH VIGOROUS CRIES OF "ALI MUST GO*"
NEVERTHELESS THEIR CARS WERE BADLY DAMAGED.
WYMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL DISORDERS, STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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